

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, I missed two rollcall votes earlier today because I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on rollcall vote No. 400 and "yes" on rollcall vote No. 401, the House antiterrorism bill.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. CLINGER. Mr. Speaker, earlier today, I was unavoidably detained and missed rollcall No. 401, final passage of the bipartisan antiterrorism initiative. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

□ 1630

AUTHORIZING THE CLERK TO MAKE CORRECTIONS IN EN-GROSSMENT OF H.R. 3953, AVIATION SECURITY AND ANTITERRORISM ACT OF 1996

Mr. COX of California. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that, in the engrossment of the bill, H.R. 3953, the Clerk be authorized to correct section numbers, cross-references, and punctuation, and to make such stylistic, clerical, technical, conforming, and other changes as may be necessary.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HASTERT). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

(Mr. BONIOR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I take this time in order to engage the gentleman from Texas [Mr. ARMEY], the majority leader, in a colloquy regarding the schedule for today and the remainder of the day.

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. BONIOR. I yield to the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, we have had our last vote, and I am pleased to announce that the House has concluded its legislative business for the week. Members are, have been already, proceeding to their homes for their August district work period.

Mr. Speaker, I am sure I speak for both the distinguished gentleman from Michigan and myself in wishing them Godspeed on this trip home.

As we head into the August district work period today, I think it is important to reflect on our accomplishments of the past week. Working in a bipartisan manner, this Congress has passed comprehensive welfare reform, guaranteed that health care will be both portable and affordable, and ensured that our Nation will have the cleanest, safest drinking water in the world.

After our long-awaited August break, we will return to work on Wednesday, September 4, at 12 noon and hold votes

that day after 5 p.m. Consistent with our unanimous-consent agreement of last evening, the House will consider a number of bills under suspension of the rules on September 4, 1996.

Members should be advised that a list of suspensions will be prepared and distributed by August 21. On Thursday, September 5, and Friday, September 6, we hope to take up H.R. 3308, the United States Armed Forces Protection Act, which will be subject to a rule. We also expect to go to conference on the immigration bill and consider any appropriations conference reports that may be available.

We expect to finish our work that week by 2 p.m. Friday, September 6.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time and wish him an enjoyable August work period.

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, reclaiming my time, I would say the same to my friend from Texas, and I thank him for the information.

ELECTION OF MEMBER TO COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I offer a resolution (H. Res. 509) and I ask unanimous consent for its immediate consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the resolution.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 509

Resolved, That the following named Member be, and he is hereby, elected to the following standing committee of the House of Representatives:

Committee on Agriculture: Mr. FUNDERBURK of North Carolina.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

DISPENSING WITH CALENDAR WEDNESDAY BUSINESS ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 1996

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that business in order under the Calendar Wednesday rule be dispensed with on Wednesday, September 4, 1996.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

AUTHORIZING THE SPEAKER AND MINORITY LEADER TO ACCEPT RESIGNATIONS AND MAKE APPOINTMENTS, NOTWITHSTANDING ADJOURNMENT

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding any adjournment of the House until Wednesday, September 4, 1996 the Speaker and the minority leader be authorized to accept resignations and to

make appointments authorized by law or by the House.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

GRANTING ALL MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE PRIVILEGE TO EXTEND AND REVISE REMARKS IN CONGRESSIONAL RECORD TODAY

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that for today all Members be permitted to extend their remarks and to include extraneous material in that section of the RECORD entitled "Extensions of Remarks."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

DESIGNATION OF HON. FRANK R. WOLF AND HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA TO ACT AS SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE TO SIGN ENROLLED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS THROUGH WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 1996

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,

August 2, 1996.

I hereby designate the Honorable Frank R. Wolf, or, if not available to perform this duty, the Honorable Constance A. Morella to act as Speaker pro tempore to sign enrolled bills and joint resolutions through Wednesday, September 4, 1996.

NEWT GINGRICH,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the designations are agreed to.

There was no objection.

DIRECTING THE CLERK TO MAKE CORRECTION IN ENROLLMENT OF H.R. 3103, HEALTH INSURANCE PORTABILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 1996

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, I offer a concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 208) directing the Clerk of the House of Representatives to make a correction in the enrollment of H.R. 3103, and I ask unanimous consent for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

Mr. STARK. Reserving the right to object, Mr. Speaker, and I shall not object, but I would like to engage the distinguished subcommittee chair from California in a brief colloquy and ask if he would explain what this modest change in the bill does.

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman will yield, my understanding is that this change removes the item that was added dealing with the

particular drug used in the treatment of arthritis which would have created an equity under the Patent Code with another drug that had been given privileged treatment in an earlier piece of legislation that had passed.

My understanding is that the attempt to provide this particular drug with equity under the patent law had been tried in a previous Democratic Congress, including a number of measures, and they all failed. The assumption was, this would be an appropriate route.

I will tell the gentleman, apparently with the concurrent resolution in front of us, there was a conclusion on the Senate side that it was not the appropriate route.

Mr. STARK. Further reserving the right to object, I thank the gentleman for his explanation.

Further reserving the right to object, Mr. Speaker, under that reservation I would like to congratulate the distinguished gentleman from California, the subcommittee chairman of the Subcommittee on Health of the Committee on Ways and Means for his work in completing this bill.

The only reason I could possibly think of to object would be so that I could then be recorded voting in favor of it, but I will not take the time of this body except to add my congratulations and to say that I am glad this was done.

Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the concurrent resolution, as follows:

H. CON. RES. 208

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring). That, in the enrollment of the bill (H.R. 3103), to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to improve portability and continuity of health insurance coverage in the group and individual markets, to combat waste, fraud, and abuse in health insurance and health care delivery, to promote the use of medical savings accounts, to improve access to long-term care services and coverage, to simplify the administration of health insurance, and for other purposes, the Clerk of the House of Representatives shall make the following correction:

Strike subtitle H of title II of the bill and the items corresponding to such subtitle in the table of contents of the bill in section 1(b).

The concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS ACT

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 2739) to provide for a representational allowance for Members of the House of Representatives, to make technical and

conforming changes to sundry provisions of law in consequence of administrative reforms in the House of Representatives, and for other purposes, with Senate amendments thereto and concur in the Senate amendments.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Clerk read the Senate amendments, as follows:

Senate amendments:

Page 2, in the table of contents, strike out: "Sec. 107. Cafeteria plan provision."

Page 2, in the table of contents, strike out "108" and insert "107".

Page 2, in the table of contents, strike out "109" and insert "108".

Page 14, strike out lines 1 through 23.

Page 15, line 1, strike out "108" and insert "107".

Page 16, line 1, strike out "109" and insert "108".

Mr. THOMAS (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate amendments be considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

Mr. FAZIO of California. Reserving the right to object, Mr. Speaker, and I will not object, I would like to yield to my friend, the gentleman from California [Mr. THOMAS], to describe his request.

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, this is the Administrative Reform Technical Corrections Act. We passed it back in March, March 19, as a matter of fact. The Senate passed the bill June 28. They added one amendment to section 107 of the bill. The purpose of this unanimous-consent request is to agree to that Senate amendment.

Mr. FAZIO of California. Reclaiming my time, Mr. Speaker, the minority has no problem with the legislation before us or any of the other four resolutions that the gentleman will present, and we would certainly not object to their adoption at this time.

Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the original request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

APPROVING REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT PROVISIONS OF THE CONGRESSIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 1995

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on House Oversight and the Committee on Economic and Educational Opportunities be discharged from further consideration of the resolution (H. Res. 504) approving certain regulations to implement provisions of the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 relating to labor-management rela-

tions with respect to employing offices and covered employees of the House of Representatives, and for other purposes, and asked for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 504

Resolved,

SECTION 1. APPROVAL OF REGULATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The regulations described in subsection (b) are hereby approved insofar as such regulations apply to employing offices and covered employees of the House of Representatives under the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 and to the extent such regulations are consistent with the provisions of such Act.

(b) REGULATIONS APPROVED.—The regulations referred to in subsection (a) are the regulations issued by the Office of Compliance on July 9, 1996, under section 220(d) of the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 to implement section 220 of such Act (relating to the application of chapter 71 of title 5, United States code), as published in the Congressional Record on July 11, 1996 (Volume 142, daily edition), beginning on page H7454.

SEC. 2. ADOPTION OF REGULATIONS RELATING TO HEARING OFFICERS.

The Board of Directors of the Office of Compliance shall adopt regulations (in accordance with section 304 of the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995) to implement the requirement that the Board refer any matter under section 200(c)(1) of such Act which relates to employing offices and covered employees of the House of Representatives to a hearing officer.

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, on July 9, 1996, the Board of Directors of the Office of Compliance adopted final regulations to implement the Federal Service Labor-Management Relations statutes under section 220(d) of the Congressional Accountability Act. House Resolution 504 approves the regulations applicable to the House, to the extent that such regulations are consistent with the act. The resolution further directs the Board to adopt supplemental regulations to implement the requirement in section 220(c)(1) of the act that all matters relating to Federal Labor Relations be referred to a hearing officer. Regulations relating to section 220(e) of the act have not yet been adopted by the Board.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

APPROVING CERTAIN REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT CONGRESSIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 1995

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on House Oversight and the Committee on Economic and Educational Opportunities be discharged from further consideration of the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 207) approving